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LETTER DATED 11 AUGUST 1998 FROM THE CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF KUWAIT TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to draw your attention to an article published by the Baghdad newspaper Al-Iraq on 28 July 1998 concerning the so-called "League of the Entitled". In this connection, I am transmitting to you herewith some information on this alleged organization, whose formation and activities have had the backing of the Iraqi regime with a view to undermining the security and stability of the State of Kuwait.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ali Sulaiman R. AL-SAEID
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex

The Iraqi regime and the so-called "League of the Entitled"

In its issue No. 6589 dated 28 July 1998, the Baghdad newspaper Al-Iraq published on its front page a headline that read: "The exiled sons of Kuwait give their pledge to the Leader that they will wage Jihad until such time as the banners of Arab glory shall wave above the Jahra' Gate ... We shall restore smiles to the mournful shores of Kuwait".

The newspaper says:

> "The sons of Kuwait in exile from their homes and their fatherland have addressed a letter to His Excellency the President, saying:
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> "'To the nation's champion and renewer of its glory, the one who faithfully urges the caravan towards its destiny, the nation's sword against its enemies and protector of its sons, the bearer of the standard with the device "Allahu Akbar" - to you, a pledge from your Kuwaiti sons and from their wives, their children and their elders, exiled from their homes for no reason other than their valiant stance on the ramparts of truth, the Arab ideal and honour ... a pledge from us, Mr. President, that we shall restore smiles to the mournful shores of Kuwait, that the banners of Arab glory and vigour shall wave above the Jahra' Gate and that the majesty of Iraq's palm trees shall embrace the towers in brotherhood, love, fidelity and Arab consanguinity. The morrow, for he that watches for it, is nigh.'"

The letter is signed with the name of Hatim Mayhul Hadamah, as Chairman of the Executive Committee of the League of the Entitled. This is not, of course, the first time that the Iraqi information media have disseminated such claims. In its issue No. 8832 of 5 October 1994, the Iraqi newspaper Al-Jumhuriyah published an article that included the following:

> "A number of exiles banished by the Kuwaiti authorities from their homes in Kuwait have applied to the Ministry of the Interior for permission to form a branch of the League of the Entitled in Iraq. They have asked to be allowed to establish themselves in proximity to the Iraq-Kuwait border in order to proclaim their cause to world public opinion so that they may subsequently be allowed to return to Kuwait and regain the exercise of their usurped rights. The Minister of the Interior has acceded to this request and has recognized their right to act in such a way as to advance their cause."

This announcement concerning the League and its approval by the Iraqi authorities came only five days before Iraq began to concentrate troops along its border with Kuwait on 10 October 1994. There is thus a strong link between the two events, and this indicates that the League was created on instructions from the Iraqi regime and by members of its security apparatus as part of a new invasion plan. The alert was then raised by the international community, and the plan was laid to rest through resolve, forcefulness and solidarity.

Who are the "entitled"?

The activities of the League during October 1994 indicate a connection between its manoeuvrings and the military deployment. Iraq moved large numbers of its subjects and minions towards the Iraq-Kuwait border, where it established a huge camp for them consisting of thousands of tents erected by its adherents in areas within view of the demilitarized zone established by the United Nations along the boundaries after the Iraqi military defeat in the war for the liberation of Kuwait. Iraq furnished this camp with abundant supplies and provided these levies with the means of transportation that brought thousands to the camp. Persisting in its customary misrepresentation and deception, Iraq saw to it that the persons in question should be dressed in civilian clothing and it inserted amongst them a number of families with children and womenfolk in order to conceal the fact that these levies were nothing more than Iraqi armed forces in civilian dress.

The Iraqi regime claimed that the levies massed in this camp belonged to the category of the "Bidun", stateless persons "without" a nationality (bi-dun jinsiyah), that they had been expelled from Kuwait, that they were inhabitants of Kuwait seeking to return to their homeland and that they had given themselves the name of the "entitled".

This massing was made to coincide with movements of Iraqi armed forces towards the Kuwaiti border so that it would a force exerting pressure in parallel with the military deployments. This was done in the forlorn hope that such pressure would result in the lifting of the sanctions imposed on Iraq by the international community, as represented by the Security Council, because of its brutal aggression against the State of Kuwait. The Iraqi regime produced a number of the minions who lead this grouping, and it surrounded them with its information media and the mouthpieces of its lackeys with a view to arousing world public opinion with these misleading and spurious claims. Huge numbers were massed in the border area for whom camps were set up consisting of thousands of tents equipped with everything to make them liveable, and they were provided with the means of transportation that brought them there from all parts of Iraq. The establishment and operation of such enormous camps in this desert region can only have been brought about through planning and preparation. It cannot have been done thus in a spontaneous manner and through the uncoordinated individual efforts of those who claim that they were wrongfully expelled from Kuwait and wish to return there on the grounds that it is their homeland and that they are Kuwaiti citizens by virtue of their having resided in Kuwait for long periods of time and having worked for Kuwaiti governmental agencies before the Iraqi aggression.

Those agencies of the Iraqi regime that massed these people and moved them to the borders have overlooked the fact that many of those whose names appeared in connection with these levies and were reported by the Iraqi information media are bearers of documents issued by the Iraqi authorities that prove that they are Iraqis. These documents include passports, work permits and draft cards for the Iraqi armed forces. Among the persons that were leaders of this deployment are those listed below.

1. Shakir Rashid Muz'il, who is a member of the Iraqi Popular Army.

2. Kazim Ali Bisharah Adlan, who holds an Iraqi passport. He approached the Iraqi Embassy in Kuwait for a passport, and he has an identity document from the Iraqi civil status authorities showing that he was born on 3 February 1964. His name is given as that of a member of the League of the Entitled in issue No. 5607 of the Iraqi newspaper Al-Iraq dated 11 October 1994.

3. Ibrahim Nayif Jalub, who is registered with the Iraqi census bureau.

4. Majid Hamid Na'im, whose name is recorded in the lists of Iraqi party members. He did his military service in the Iraqi Army, and he resides among the leaders of the Basrah branch of the Baath Party.

5. Kazim Suhayl Hayyal Haydar al-Safi, who is the bearer of a work permit for employment outside Iraq. He was born in Shatrah in Iraq's Dhi Qar Governorate.

6. Tariq Shamkhi Abbas al-Jasim, who was born in 1952 in Amarah, Iraq. He has a permit from the Iraqi Embassy to work in Kuwait and is the bearer of Iraqi passport No. 1814/1408132.

7. As'ad Salih Mansur, whose name appears in Iraqi military draft records.

8. Halla Sahn Mudar al-Zaj' al-Shamiri, who is a member of the Iraqi Popular Army. His name is given as one of those who applied to the Iraqi Minister of the Interior, calling themselves the "League of the Entitled", for permission to assemble at the Iraq-Kuwait border. The Iraqi newspaper Al-Thawrah published this request in its issue No. 8572 of 5 October 1994.

9. Mawjan Majid Khalaf, who joined the Popular Army. His name appears in connection with the levies of the "Bidun" in issue No. 8828 of the Iraqi newspaper Al-Jumhuriyah of 11 October 1994. He took out a driver's license during the time of the occupation.

10. Ghadban Bazza' Bakhit, who is the bearer of an Iraqi passport.

11. Muwaffaq Muhammad Kamil al-Habib, who holds an Iraqi passport and was born in Basrah in 1941.

12. Salim Hamdan Muhammad Sayir al-Zafiri, who holds Iraqi nationality on the basis of an original birth certificate. He submitted an application for a replacement during the occupation.

13. Ali Ahmad Ali, who is the bearer of Iraqi citizenship certificate No. 1228882 dated 19 March 1975. He was born in Basrah and is the holder of an Iraqi certificate for employment outside Iraq. His name is included among those of the "Bidun" in issue No. 8832 of the Iraqi newspaper Al-Jumhuriyah of 5 October 1994.

14. Nuri Sa'dun Rashid, who holds an Iraqi passport. He was born in Baghdad in 1942, and his name is included among those of the "Bidun" in issue No. 8832 of the Iraqi newspaper Al-Jumhuriyah of 5 October 1994.

15. Tariq Ali Hasan, who holds an Iraqi passport. He comes from Basrah Governorate, and his name is included among those of the "Bidun" in the aforementioned issue of the Iraqi newspaper Al-Jumhuriyah.

16. Abd al-Rida Kazim Amir, who holds an Iraqi passport. He is from Muthanna Governorate, and his name appears in the Iraqi register for the draft. His name is included in the previously mentioned list.

17. Munif Awad Mut'ib, who is the bearer of an Iraqi passport.

18. Yusuf Abd al-Salam Mustafa al-Rifa'i, who holds an Iraqi passport. He was appointed officer-in-charge of the foodstuffs and retailers' licenses department in Kuwait during the occupation. He was born in Abu al-Khasib, Basrah, Iraq, and was exempted from military service in Iraq on payment of the cash indemnity. His name appears in one of the lists published in the aforesaid issue of the Iraqi newspaper Al-Jumhuriyah.

19. Tariq Shamkhi Abbas Jasim, who has an Iraqi passport and an Iraqi employment clearance. His name appears in the aforesaid lists.

20. Khalid Dahham Munajid, who holds an Iraqi passport. He is from Anbar Governorate, Iraq, and his name appears in the aforesaid lists.

21. Abd al-Hakim Za'lan Khudayr, who holds Iraqi passport No. 711020. He was born in Basrah, and his name appears in the aforesaid lists.

22. Hadi Mahmud Tawfiq, who is registered at the Iraqi census bureau by virtue of his father.

23. Muhammad Abd Allah Nasir, who holds an Iraqi passport. He was born in Zubayr, Iraq.

These are merely examples of persons for whom documents have been found attesting to their Iraqi citizenship. These include documents that were issued by Iraqi governmental agencies such as the Embassy of Iraq in Kuwait, documents for the census of Iraqi nationals, permits for employment outside Iraq and records of recruitment to the Iraqi armed forces. For the most part, their names were among those of the leaders of the Iraqi concentrations along the Iraq-Kuwait borders in October 1994.